

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 IO-10 SAM-01 SAI-01 ACDA-10

AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

OFA-01 COME-00 DLOS-05 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04

ERDA-07 FEAE-00 FMC-02 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-05 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-03

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ORM-01 SR-02 /161 W

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R 051517Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9836

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

UNCLAS OSLO 2281

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PO, VS, NO

SUBJECT: STORTING SPRING FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE FOCUSES ON FISHING
LIMITS, PORTUGAL AND VIETNAM

REFS: (A) OSLO 2159

(B) OSLO 2132

SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPRING
FOREIGN POLICY REVIEW MAY 23(REF A) THE STORTING WOUND UP
SIX-HOUR FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE ON JUNE 2 WITH GENERAL
BACKING OF THE GOVERNMENT DECISION TO HOLD OFF ON
A FISHING LIMIT EXTENSION AND TO SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC
FORCES IN PORTUGAL, AND A BROAD DISCUSSION ON IMPACT
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OF THE END OF VIETNAM WAR. END SUMMARY

1. MOST SIGNIFICANT DISCUSSION DEALT WITH QUESTION OF EXTENDING FISHERY LIMITS. DURING DEBATE, GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN MADE IT CLEAR THAT GOVERNMENT HAD CHANGED ITS MIND ON EARLIER DECISION IN PRINCIPLE TO EXTEND NORWAY'S FISHING LIMITS TO 50-MILES THIS YEAR. INSTEAD GOVERNMENT NOW FAVORED EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE AS ENVISIONED WITHIN LOS CONFERENCE.

2. LOS MINISTER JENS EVENSEN, JUST BACK FROM LOS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA AND FISHERY ZONE TALKS IN MOSCOW, EXPLAINED THAT IN VIEW OF LOS "BREAKTHROUGH" FOR 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE, IT WOULD BE "UNWISE" FOR NORWAY TO SEEK TO NEGOTIATE 50-MILE FISHERY ZONE AND IRRESPONSIBLE TO MAKE UNILATERAL ASSERTION. HE STATED NORWAY MUST PROCEED THROUGH INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION. HE SAID HIS TALKS IN MOSCOW REVEALED GREATER INTEREST IN 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE(PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF LOS CONFERENCE) THAN IN 50-MILE CONCEPT. HE THOUGHT THE LOS TREATY WOULD BE SIGNED NEXT YEAR. NOTING THAT OTHER NORTH ATLANTIC COUNTRIES HAD VOICED PREFERENCE FOR THE 200-MILE ZONE HE ANNOUNCED HE WOULD BE HOLDING TALKS WITH UK AND ICELAND ON THIS MATTER LATER IN JUNE AND WITH THE US, CANADA, AND MEXICO IN AUGUST. THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WAS SUPPORTED BY ALL PARTIES (INCLUDING THE CENTER PARTY WHICH HAD FAVORED THE 50-MILE CLAIM AND THE CHRISTIAN PEOPLE'S WHICH HAD WAVERED EARLIER) EXCEPT THE SV, WHICH ATTACKED THE GOVERNMENT FOR KNUCKLING UNDER TO NATO IN ALTERING ITS EARLIER POSITION.

3. ON PORTUGAL, LABOR'S PARLIAMENTARY LEADER AND NEXT PRIME MINISTER ODVAR NORDLI LED THE STRONG CHARGE OPENED BY THE PARTY AND LABOR MOVEMENT LAST WEEK(REFTEL B) POINTING OUT THAT COMMUNIST COUNTRIES ALSO HAVE IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD PORTUGAL AND SHOULD SEEK TO RESTRAIN THE COMMUNIST PARTY THERE. HE SAID A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT POPULAR SUPPORT IN PORTUGAL COULD UPSET UNCLASSIFIED

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THE DETENTE PROCESS.

4. STATING THE WEST HAD RESPONSIBILITY AS WELL, NORDLI PROPOSED COORDINATION OF A COMBINED NORDIC INITIATIVE TO AID PORTUGAL. TO WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND EXPRESSED AGREEMENT. THE NON-SOCIALISTS GENERALLY SUPPORTED THESE SENTIMENTS AND THEY USED OCCASION TO NEEDLE LEFTIST SV ON

PORTUGAL. SV LEADERS SAID THEY WERE OPPOSED TO ALL BREACHES OF FREEDOM IN PORTUGAL AND WERE UNHAPPY WITH ACTIONS OF COMMUNIST PRINTERS TOWARD THE PORTUGUESE NEWSPAPER "REPUBLICA." BUT THEY SAID THEY SAW NO DANGER OF A COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP THERE.

5. VIETNAM DEBATE FOCUSSED ON WAR'S IMPACT ON VIETNAM AND THE US. THE CONSERVATIVES CRITICIZED THE GOVERNMENT FOR ACQUIESCING IN COMMUNIST POLICIES IN INDOCHINA AND SAID NORWAY BORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS AND REACTING TO ISSUES OF HUMAN RIGHTS THERE. THE FOREIGN MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT THE NORWEGIAN RED CROSS WAS ASSISTING IN SETTING UP A REHABILITATION CENTER FOR CHILDREN IN SOUTH VIETNAM TO WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROVIDE 20 MILLION KRONER IF AGREED BY THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH VIETNAM.

6. FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TOR OFTEDAL (LABOR) SAID HE HOPED THE END OF THE WAR WOULD ENABLE US AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES TO "CLEAN-UP AN ATTIC FULL OF POLITICAL AND IDEALOGICAL WRECKAGE LEFT OVER FROM THE COLD WAR." HE SAID HE EXPECTED THE US WOULD UNDERTAKE A DIFFICULT REEXAMINATION OF ITS POLICY WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO A MORE CAUTIOUS US APPROACH TO ITS ALLIES AND FRIENDS AND EVEN THE RISK OF RESURGENT NEO-ISOLATIONISM. MOST OTHERS WHO ADDRESSED THE ISSUE SUPPORTED THE REMARKS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER IN HIS MAY 23 STATEMENT EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION THAT US WOULD LIVE UP TO ITS COMMITMENTS. BYRNE

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